

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF THE WESTERN CAPE



The Western Cape has forty-two different types of snakes. Nineteen species are not venomous, while nine snake species are mildly venomous. Eight can inflict a painful bite and six species are considered highly venomous.

## HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

## VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra - juvenile  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Black Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - female  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - juvenile  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**VENOMOUS**

Berg Adder  
(*Bitis atropos*)



**VENOMOUS**

Red Adder  
(*Bitis rubida*)



**VENOMOUS**

Red Adder  
(*Bitis rubida*)



**VENOMOUS**

Horned Adder  
(*Bitis caudalis*)



**VENOMOUS**

Southern Adder  
(*Bitis armata*)



**VENOMOUS**

Common Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

Cape Coral Snake  
(*Aspidelaps l. lubricus*)

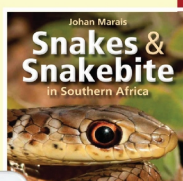
**JOHAN MARAIS** is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-seller *A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of courses including **Snake Awareness**, **Scorpion Awareness** and **Venomous Snake Handling**. Johan is accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) and is a Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA) and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

## Free ASI SNAKES App

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## EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

### IN THE EVENT OF A SNAKE BITE

- 1 Keep the victim calm, immobilized and transport the victim to the closest hospital **without delay**.
- 2 If the victim stops breathing, resort to artificial respiration or make use of a Bag Valve Mask.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: +27 861 555 777.

### DO NOT

- ... apply a tourniquet.
- ... cut and suck the wound.
- ... use ice or very hot water.
- ... give the victim alcohol.
- ... apply electric shock.
- ... inject antivenom randomly. Antivenom (if required) must be administered by a doctor in a hospital environment.